

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/690,841

Examiner

Jila M. Mohandesi

Applicant(s)

WESTMEYER ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 09-28-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4 and 6-23.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 09-18-2006.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



Jila M Mohandesi
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Stuart J. Friedman on January 18, 2006.

Claims 1-23 have been amended as follows:

1. A storage package for multiple recording media comprising a paper board component attached to at least three plastic, recording medium-holding trays, said package having an open and closed configuration and adapted to be latched in the closed configuration, said package in said closed configuration resembling a closed book with all said recording media inside of said package, said package including:

A. a paper board component defining a plurality of panels arranged end to end, said panels having opposite flat faces and being separated from each other by spine strips which are bounded by fold lines to allow the panels to be folded upon one another such that, in the folded configuration, the package resembles a closed book, the outwardly facing face of the last panel to be folded to form the closed book configuration comprising an outer cover of said book;

B. a first plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium attached to the inside face of said last panel to be folded and a second plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium attached to the panel face opposite said inside face in

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the folded configuration, said first and second plastic trays adapted to be latched to maintain said package in the closed configuration;

C. said first and second plastic trays defining:

(i) a generally planar surface having opposite faces for receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said planar surface having marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface;

(ii) upstanding wall portions on said planar surface proximate the marginal edges of said planar surface, said wall portions on said second plastic tray being positioned a greater distance inside the marginal edges of said planar surface than on said first plastic tray such that, when said plastic trays are brought together into first face to first proximity, the wall portions of said second plastic tray nest within the wall portions of said first plastic tray with the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray immediately adjacent the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray, the separation between the planar surfaces of said plastic trays being determined by the height of said wall portions; and

(iii) means at corresponding locations on the wall portions of said first and second plastic trays for releasably engaging and latching said first and second plastic trays together in an assembled configuration; and

D. at least one additional plastic recording medium holding tray for holding said multiple recording media, each of said additional plastic trays receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said additional plastic trays being attached to panel faces which are in the interior of the storage package in the

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folded configuration and inaccessible without unlatching said first and second plastic trays.

2. A storage package, as claimed in claim 1, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays has a circular recess formed therein for receiving said recording medium and a rosette within said recess for releasably holding said recording medium in said recess.

3. A storage package, as claimed in claim 2, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays further includes finger wells communicating with and extending outwardly from said recess for allowing the insertion of fingers therein when removing said recording medium from said recess.

4. A storage package, as claimed in claim 1, wherein said means for releasably latching comprises protrusions on the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray engaging correspondingly located protrusions on the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray.

5. (Canceled).

6. A storage package, as claimed in claim 1, wherein multiple recording media comprise at least four recording media.

7. A storage package, as claimed in claim 1, wherein said plastic trays are adhesively attached to said panels.

8. A storage package, as claimed in claim 1, wherein at least one plastic tray faces at least one panel when said storage package is in the folded configuration.

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9. A storage package for multiple recording media comprising a paper board component attached to at least three plastic, recording medium-holding trays, said package having an open and closed configuration and adapted to be latched in the closed configuration, said package in said closed configuration resembling a closed book with all said recording media inside of said package, said package including:

A. a paper board component defining a flat panel having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides, said panel including a first panel area for attachment of a first plastic, recording medium-holding tray and a second panel area for attachment of a second plastic, recording medium-holding tray, said first and second plastic trays being separated by a third panel area for defining the spine of said book;

B. a first plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the inside face of said last panel to be folded and a second plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the panel face opposite said inside face in the folded configuration, said first and second plastic trays adapted to be latched to maintain said package in the closed configuration;

C. said first and second plastic trays defining:

(i) a generally planar surface having opposite faces for receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said planar surface having marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface, an area in the planar surface for receiving a recording medium therein and means in said area for releasably retaining said recording medium in said area;

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(ii) upstanding wall portions on said planar surface proximate the marginal edges of said planar surface for defining a spacing rim for separating peripheral marginal areas from interior areas of said planar surface, said wall portions being positioned just inside the marginal edges of said planar surface;

(iii) said wall portions on said second plastic tray being positioned a greater distance inside the marginal edges of said planar surface than on said first plastic tray such that, when said plastic trays are brought together into first face to first proximity, the wall portions of said second plastic tray nest within the wall portions of said first plastic tray with the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray immediately adjacent the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray and the tops of the wall portions of the first plastic tray engage the marginal edges of the planar surfaces of said second plastic tray, the separation between the planar surfaces of said plastic trays being determined by the height of said first plastic tray wall portions; and

(iv) means on said wall portions of said first and second plastic trays for releasably engaging and latching said first and second plastic trays together in an assembled configuration; and

D. at least one additional plastic recording medium holding tray for holding said multiple recording media, each of said additional plastic trays receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said additional plastic trays being attached to panel faces which are in the interior of the storage package in the folded configuration and inaccessible without unlatching said first and second plastic trays.

10. A storage package, as claimed in claim 9, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays has a circular recess formed therein for receiving said recording medium and a rosette within said recess for releasably holding said recording medium in said recess.

11. A storage package, as claimed in claim 10, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays further includes diametrically opposed finger wells communicating with and extending outwardly from said recess for allowing the insertion of fingers therein when removing said recording medium from said recess.

12. A storage package, as claimed in claim 9, wherein said planar surface has a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides for forming said marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface.

13. A storage package, as claimed in claim 12, wherein said wall portions are positioned just inside the marginal edges of said planar surface and extending continuously along the opposed lateral sides, one of said transverse sides, and along transversely spaced segments of the opposite transverse side, said spaced segments extending inwardly from each of the opposed lateral sides.

14. A storage package, as claimed in claim 13, wherein the ends of the spaced segments and the planar surfaces define therebetween an elongate, transversely extending slot when said first and second plastic trays are brought together.

15. A storage package for multiple recording media comprising a paper board component attached to at least three plastic, recording medium-holding trays, said package having an open and closed configuration and adapted to be latched in the closed configuration, said package in said closed configuration resembling a closed book with all said recording media inside of said package, said package including:

A. a paper board component defining a flat panel having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides, said panel including a first panel area for attachment of a first plastic, recording medium-holding tray and a second panel area for attachment of a second plastic, recording medium-holding tray, said first and second plastic trays being separated by a third panel area for defining the spine of said book;

B. a first plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the inside face of said last panel to be folded and a second plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the panel face opposite said inside face in the folded configuration, said first and second plastic trays adapted to be latched to maintain said package in the closed configuration;

C. said first and second plastic trays defining:

(i) a generally planar surface having opposite faces for receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said planar surface having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides for forming marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface, an area in the planar surface for receiving a recording medium

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therein and means in said area for releasably retaining said recording medium in said area;

(ii) upstanding wall portions on said planar surface proximate the marginal edges of said planar surface for defining a spacing rim for separating peripheral marginal areas from interior areas of said planar surface, said wall portions being positioned just inside the marginal edges of said planar surface and extending continuously along the opposed lateral sides, one of said transverse sides, and along transversely spaced segments of the opposite transverse side, and spaced segments extending inwardly from each of the opposed lateral sides;

(iii) said wall portions on said second plastic tray being positioned a greater distance inside the marginal edges of said planar surface than on said first plastic tray such that, when said plastic trays are brought together into first face to first proximity, the wall portions of said second plastic tray nest within the wall portions of said first plastic tray with the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray immediately adjacent the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray, the ends of the spaced segments and the planar surfaces define therebetween an elongate, transversely extending slot; and

(iv) means on said wall portions of said first and second plastic trays for releasably engaging and latching said first and second plastic trays together in an assembled configuration; and a third panel area of said paperboard component being positioned adjacent the nested spaced segments of said assembled first and second plastic trays; and

D. at least one additional plastic recording medium holding tray for holding said multiple recording media, each of said additional plastic trays receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said additional plastic trays being attached to panel faces which are in the interior of the storage package in the folded configuration and inaccessible without unlatching said first and second plastic trays.

16. A storage package, as claimed in claim 15, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays has a circular recess formed therein for receiving said recording medium and a rosette within said recess for releasably holding said recording medium in said recess.

17. A storage package, as claimed in claim 16, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays further includes finger wells communicating with and extending outwardly from said recess for allowing the insertion of fingers therein when removing said recording medium from said recess.

18. A storage package for multiple recording media comprising a paper board component attached to at least three plastic, recording medium-holding trays, said package having an open and closed configuration and adapted to be latched in the closed configuration, said package in said closed configuration resembling a closed book with all said recording media inside of said package, said package including:

A. a paper board component defining a flat panel having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides, said panel including a first panel area for attachment of a first

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plastic, recording medium-holding tray and a second panel area for attachment of a second plastic, recording medium-holding tray, said first and second plastic trays being separated by a third panel area for defining the spine of said book;

B. a first plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the inside face of said last panel to be folded and a second plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the panel face opposite said inside face in the folded configuration, said first and second plastic trays adapted to be latched to maintain said package in the closed configuration;

C. said first and second plastic trays defining:

(i) a generally planar surface having opposite faces for receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said planar surface having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides for forming marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface, an area in the planar surface for receiving a recording medium therein and means in said area for releasably retaining said recording medium in said area;

(ii) upstanding wall portions on said planar surface proximate the marginal edges of said planar surface for defining a spacing rim for separating peripheral marginal areas from interior areas of said planar surface, said wall portions being positioned just inside the marginal edges of said planar surface and extending continuously along the opposed lateral sides, one of said transverse sides, and along

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transversely spaced segments of the opposite transverse side, said spaced segments extending inwardly from each of the opposed lateral sides;

(iii) said wall portions on said second plastic tray being positioned a greater distance inside the marginal edges of said planar surface than on said first plastic tray such that, when said plastic trays are brought together into first face to first proximity, the wall portions of said second plastic tray nest within the wall portions of said first plastic tray with the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray immediately adjacent the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray, the separation between the planar surfaces of said plastic trays being determined by the height of said first plastic tray wall portions; and

(iv) projections positioned on the outer surface of the wall portions of the spaced segments of said second plastic tray and projections at corresponding locations on the inner surface of the wall portions of the spaced segments of said first plastic tray for snap fitting one over the other for releasably engaging and latching said first and second plastic trays together in an assembled configuration; and a third panel area of said paperboard component being positioned adjacent the nested spaced segments of said assembled first and second plastic trays; and

D. at least one additional plastic recording medium holding tray for holding said multiple recording media, each of said additional plastic trays receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said additional plastic trays being attached to panel faces which are in the interior of the storage package in the

folded configuration and inaccessible without unlatching said first and second plastic trays.

19. A storage package, as claimed in claim 18, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays has a circular recess formed therein for receiving said recording medium and a rosette within said recess for releasably holding said recording medium in said recess.

20. A storage package, as claimed in claim 19, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays further includes diametrically opposed finger wells communicating with and extending outwardly from said recess for allowing the insertion of fingers therein when removing said recording medium from said recess.

21. A storage package for multiple recording media comprising a paper board component attached to at least three plastic, recording medium-holding trays, said package having an open and closed configuration and adapted to be latched in the closed configuration, said package in said closed configuration resembling a closed book with all said recording media inside of said package, said package including:

A. a paper board component defining a flat panel having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides, said panel including a first panel area for attachment of a first plastic, recording medium-holding tray and a second panel area for attachment of a second plastic, recording medium-holding tray, said first and second plastic trays being separated by a third panel area for defining the spine of said book;

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B. a first plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the inside face of said last panel to be folded and a second plastic tray for receiving and holding a recording medium bonded to the panel face opposite said inside face in the folded configuration, said first and second plastic trays adapted to be latched to maintain said package in the closed configuration;

C. said first and second plastic trays defining:

(i) a generally planar surface having opposite faces for receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said planar surface having a pair of opposed lateral sides and a pair of opposed transverse sides which are generally perpendicular to said lateral sides for forming marginal edges defining the peripheral extent of said surface, an area in the planar surface for receiving a recording medium therein and means in said area for releasably retaining said recording medium in said area;

(ii) upstanding wall portions on said planar surface proximate the marginal edges of said planar surface for defining a spacing rim for separating peripheral marginal areas from interior areas of said planar surface, said wall portions being positioned just inside the marginal edges of said planar surface and extending continuously along the opposed lateral sides, one of said transverse sides, and along transversely spaced segments of the opposite transverse side, and spaced segments extending inwardly from each of the opposed lateral sides;

(iii) said wall portions on said second plastic tray being positioned a greater distance inside the marginal edges of said planar surface than on said first

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plastic tray such that, when said plastic trays are brought together into first face to first proximity, the wall portions of said second plastic tray nest within the wall portions of said first plastic tray with the outside of the wall portions of said second plastic tray immediately adjacent the inside of the wall portions of said first plastic tray, the tops of the wall portions of the first plastic tray engage the marginal edges of the planar surface of said second plastic tray and the ends of the spaced segments and the planar surfaces define there between and elongated, transversely extending slot, the separation between the planar surfaces of said plastic trays being determined by the height of said first plastic tray wall portions; and

(iv) projections positioned on the outer surface of the wall portions of the spaced segments of said second plastic tray and projections positioned at corresponding locations on the inner surface of the wall portions of the spaced segments of said first plastic tray for snap fitting one over the other for releasably engaging and latching said first and second plastic trays together in an assembled configuration; and said paperboard component being bonded to said first and second plastic trays with the third panel area of said paperboard component adjacent the nested spaced segments of said assembled first and second plastic trays; and

D. at least one additional plastic recording medium holding tray for holding said multiple recording media, each of said additional plastic trays receiving and maintaining a recording medium on a first face thereof, said additional plastic trays being attached to panel faces which are in the interior of the storage package in the

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folded configuration and inaccessible without unlatching said first and second plastic trays.

22. A storage package, as claimed in claim 21, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays has a circular recess formed therein for receiving said recording medium and a rosette within said recess for releasably holding said recording medium in said recess.

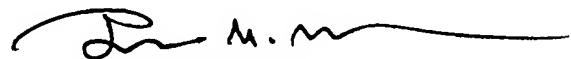
23. A storage package, as claimed in claim 22, wherein said generally planar surface of each of said plastic trays further includes diametrically opposed finger wells communicating with and extending outwardly from said recess for allowing the insertion of fingers therein when removing said recording medium from said recess.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jila M. Mohandesi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4558. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30-4:00 (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mickey Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jila M Mohandesi
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3728

JMM

January 19, 2006